



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

383 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

GLORIA MOLINA  
YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE  
ZEY YAROSLAVSKY  
DON KNABE  
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS, EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
(213) 974-1411

July 15, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATION REGARDING ALLOCATION OF  
REWARD FUNDS RELATING TO THE ARREST AND  
CONVICTION OF EVELIO RIVERA ZACARIAS  
(ALL DISTRICTS)  
(3-VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Approve the recommendation of the Reward Committee to distribute reward funds in total amount of \$10,000, to be paid from the Board's discretionary funds, to two individuals who provided information to law enforcement that led to the arrest and conviction of Evelio Rivera Zacarias who shot six individuals, four of them fatally, and kidnapped and sexually assaulted a seventh victim on Monday, August 9, 1999 in the City of Rosemead.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On Monday, August 9, 1999, at approximately 8:30 p.m., in the City of Rosemead, suspect Evelio Rivera Zacarias shot six family members of his estranged wife's new boyfriend. Four victims were fatally shot, two wounded, and a seventh victim was kidnapped and sexually assaulted. Shortly after the murders, the suspect fled to Mexico to avoid apprehension.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
July 15, 2003  
Page 2

On August 24, 1999, on motion of Supervisor Molina, your Board established a \$10,000 reward fund for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of Evelio Rivera Zacarias.

On July 6, 2000, two counts of murder were filed against Suspect Zacarias in the First District Federal Court in the State of Zacatecas, Mexico, for the murders of Andy and Oscar Pacheco. A Mexico warrant was issued for his arrest.

On April 8, 2002, after a lengthy manhunt, Fugitive Zacarias was apprehended by special agents from the Mexico Federal Bureau of Investigations. This apprehension was made possible because of the assistance of two citizens of Mexico, who provided Sheriff's homicide investigators and Mexico Federal agents with information regarding Suspect Zacarias' whereabouts.

The first informant contacted Sheriff's investigators with information that Suspect Zacarias was in Zacatecas, Mexico. Over the course of two years, this individual provided information regarding the suspect's whereabouts. His assistance was instrumental in locating and apprehending Suspect Zacarias. The second informant learned through wanted flyers that Suspect Zacarias was wanted for the Rosemead murders. This informant gave invaluable information as well that led to Suspect Zacarias' arrest.

On September 30, 2002, the First District Court in the State of Zacatecas, Mexico, sentenced Evelio Rivera Zacarias to sixty years in state prison and ordered him to pay \$46,926 in restitution to the victims' family for the murders of Andy and Oscar Pacheco.

According to the Sheriff, the two informants are deserving of the reward because their assistance led to the arrest and conviction of Evelio Rivera Zacarias. Both individuals are requesting their names not be made public.

On February 25, 2003, on motion of Supervisor Molina, your Board reestablished the \$10,000 reward fund at the request of the Sheriff, in order to consider payment of the reward to the two informants.

A panel made up of individuals representing the Sheriff, the Chief Administrative Officer, the County Counsel and the Executive Officer of the Board reviewed the information provided by the Sheriff recommending the reward be paid to the two informants. The panel has recommended that the \$10,000 reward be divided equally between the two informants.

#### Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of the above recommendation supports the County Strategic Goal of Service Excellence. Publication in local newspapers and posting of reward notices on the County website may encourage persons to provide information to law enforcement which could lead to the arrest and conviction of the individuals who commit crimes, thereby improving the quality of life of all citizens.

#### FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Board of Supervisors established a \$10,000 reward fund. Pursuant to provisions in the County Code, the reward is to be paid from the Board of Supervisors' discretionary funds in equal shares of \$2,000 from each member's account.

#### FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The action recommended is in compliance with the County Code, Title 4 - Revenue and Finance relating to rewards.

A notice of the reward was published in the Metropolitan News, La Opinión, and the Pasadena Star News. In addition, the reward notice was posted on the Board of Supervisors' web site; and the Sheriff's Department was provided a copy of the notice. The original filing period to submit a claim to the Executive Office for the reward money expired on January 21, 2000. Therefore, on February 25, 2003, on motion of Supervisor Molina, the Board, upon recommendation of the Sheriff, approved the reestablishment of the \$10,000 reward fund in order to allow the Sheriff to file a claim on behalf of the informants.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
July 15, 2003  
Page 4

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There is no impact on current County services.

Respectfully submitted,

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Reward letter re conviction of Evelio Zacarias Rivera

c: District Attorney  
Sheriff  
Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel  
Auditor-Controller